

# Your visit to Shakespear Open Sanctuary



Shakespear Regional Park, is located on the tip of the scenic Whangaparaoa Peninsula and is New Zealand's most visited and accessible open sanctuary integrating conservation, recreation and farming. It is named after the Shakespear family which bought the land in the 1880s from local Maori.

Close to the island bird sanctuary of Tiritiri Matangi, Shakespear Regional Park is an ideal site for an open sanctuary. It includes most of the Park and smaller parcels of land owned by the New Zealand Defence Force (off limits to the public) and the Auckland Council.

The sanctuary was established in 2010 following the construction of a pest-proof fence across the peninsula, after which all predator species were removed. An extensive and ongoing system of trapping and monitoring is required to ensure that the Sanctuary remains free of pests while allowing open access to visitors.

The Shakespear Open Sanctuary Society (SOSSI) provide guided tours of the Sanctuary and give talks to schools and groups. We work with teachers by highlighting the best of Shakespear to tailor your visit to achieve outcomes which best fit with learning objectives back at school. Talks and tours can cover, but are not limited to, wetland, stream, scrub, forest and seashore habitats; plants and animals of the Park; the impact of pest eradication on native plants and animals; bird relocation; cultural history of the area as well as a visit to a working farm.

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| <b>Where:</b>   | <b>Shakespear Regional Park, 1468 Whangaparaoa Road,<br/>Army Bay, Whangaparaoa</b>                                       |
| <b>Email:</b>   | <a href="mailto:info@sossi.org.nz">info@sossi.org.nz</a> ; <a href="mailto:schools@sossi.org.nz">schools@sossi.org.nz</a> |
| <b>Website:</b> | <a href="http://www.sossi.org.nz">www.sossi.org.nz</a>  |

## Preparing for your visit:

### Long term

- \* Make your booking on <http://www.sossi.org.nz/visit/schools/> and discuss your plans with SOSSI
- \* Make sure that SOSSI has your email and phone contact details
- \* Finalise your programme with SOSSI as soon as you are able including planning for a reserve day to cover postponement due to poor weather
- \* Confirm your transport arrangements with SOSSI
- \* Arrange a pre-visit to Shakespear Open Sanctuary with a SOSSI volunteer if possible
- \* Share resources and trip information with all teachers involved
- \* Plan for health and safety (see page 3)
- \* Arrange adult supervisors.

### Short term

- \* Advise students and adult supervisors what they will need to bring :
  - ✓ raincoats, warm clothing, sunhats and sunblock are strongly recommended
  - ✓ comfortable shoes that can get dirty and wet
  - ✓ morning tea, a packed lunch and a drink (we encourage low-waste lunches). Note that you are not able to purchase of food and drink at the Park
  - ✓ equipment or resources as required
- \* Become acquainted with any Health and Safety issues at the Park
- \* Consult and touch base with SOSSI over any concerns
- \* Divide students into the number of groups as agreed with SOSSI
- \* Arrange first aid kits and personal medication (as required).

### Day before

- \* Remind students and adult supervisors what they will need to bring
- \* Discuss the programme for the day and your expectations with the students
- \* Student name tags in large print are helpful
- \* Check <http://www.metservice.com/towns-cities/auckland/north-shore>. Light rain / wind is no problem, but heavy rain / wind may postpone a field trip. A joint postponement decision will be made before 8am on the morning of your visit.

### On the Day

- \* Give directions to drivers and make sure they know the way and where the drop-off is
- \* On arrival your group will be welcomed and briefed on the programme and guidelines for visiting Shakespear Open Sanctuary.
- \* You are asked to insist that your students respect the plants and animals at Shakespear Open Sanctuary and remind them that nothing can be taken from the park.
- \* Please assist by making sure groups are ready to start tours/talks at the agreed time

### After the visit

- \* Complete the online evaluation which will be emailed to you after your visit
- \* Mail your donation to the Treasurer, Shakespear Open Sanctuary Society Inc, PO Box 790, Whangaparaoa 0943 if not already arranged

## Health and safety

The health, safety and management of students are the responsibility of accompanying teachers at all times. For a safe and enjoyable visit to Shakespear Open Sanctuary, we recommend the following:

### Risk Assessment Management/ Matrix (RAM)

- \* Prepare RAM forms to your schools' requirements. Please consider the following hazards:
  - ✓ being near water
  - ✓ slippery surfaces (especially at the rock pools)
  - ✓ dogs on the beach
  - ✓ members of the public
  - ✓ medical conditions and allergies
- \* Our Safety Action Plans are available on request
- \* Please make SOSSI aware of students with special needs i.e. severe allergies, students on the autism spectrum, physical disabilities etc.
- \* In readiness for a health and safety emergency
  - ✓ please bring your own first aid kit
  - ✓ it is advisable to bring a car in case of a medical emergency.

### Adult supervisors

- \* Follow your schools' policy of adult to student ratios (we advise 1:4 if possible)
- \* Ensure adult supervisors know their responsibilities and your first aid kit location
- \* Ensure that adult supervisors are capable of active participation in outdoor activities

### Clothing

- \* Ensure students wear suitable covered footwear that can get dirty and wet
- \* Ensure students are dressed appropriately for the weather and outdoor nature of the activities.

### Reporting

- \* Any injury resulting from an accident during your visit to the Shakespear Open Sanctuary must be reported immediately to the SOSSI volunteer in charge.

## Photographs

Please be aware that SOSSI volunteers may wish to take photographs as a record of activities during the visit and that these may be used in the promotion of Shakespear Open Sanctuary.

As schools vary in their approach to photographing students we ask that the teacher advises the SOSSI volunteer in charge if there is any impediment to taking photographs during the visit.

SOSSI appreciates receiving photographs taken on behalf of the school providing their release to SOSSI has been approved.

# MAP OF SHAKESPEAR REGIONAL PARK

